

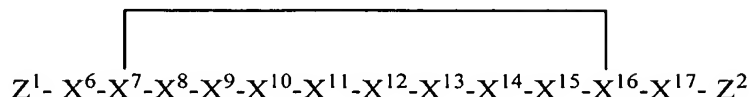
**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-28 (canceled):

Claim 29 (new): A peptide having the structure:



wherein  $X^6$  is selected from the group consisting of: D-arginine, D- alanine, D-norleucine, D- $\alpha$ -aminobutyric acid, D-valine, D-leucine, D-isoleucine, D- proline, D-methionine, D- phenylalanine, D- asparagine, D-glutamine, D- serine, D-threonine, D- glutamic acid, D-aspartic acid, D- lysine, D-histidine, D-tryptophan, D-tyrosine, D-cyclohexylalanine, D-(2')naphthylalanine, D-ornithine, D-homoarginine, D-nitroarginine, D-norarginine, D-citrulline and 5-guanidinopropionic acid,

$X^7$  is cysteine,

$X^8$  is either methionine, norleucine, or N-methyl norleucine,

$X^9$  is leucine,

$X^{10}$  is either is either asparagine, glutamine, leucine, isoleucine, valine, norleucine, cyclohexylalanine, phenylalanine, (2')-naphthylalanine, tyrosine, histidine, tryptophan, lysine, serine, threonine, methionine, or citrulline,

$X^{11}$  is arginine,

$X^{12}$  is valine,

$X^{13}$  is phenylalanine, (2')naphthylalanine, p-fluoro-phenylalanine, tyrosine, or cyclohexylalanine,

$X^{14}$  is arginine or alanine,

X<sup>15</sup> is either proline or sarcosine,  
X<sup>16</sup> is cysteine or D-cysteine,  
X<sup>17</sup> is an optionally present amino acid that, if present, is either tryptophan or tyrosine,  
Z<sup>1</sup> is an optionally present protecting group that, if present, is covalently joined to the N-terminal amino group,  
Z<sup>2</sup> is an optionally present protecting group that, if present, is covalently joined to the C-terminal carboxy group,  
wherein a substituent on said peptide is optionally substituted with a detectable label,  
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said peptide.

Claim 30 (new): The peptide of claim 29, wherein said detectable label is selected from the group consisting of: a luminescent label, an enzymatic label, and a radiolabel.

Claim 31 (new): The peptide of claim 30, wherein said detectable label is not present.

Claim 32 (new): The peptide of claim 30, wherein X<sup>6</sup> is either D-arginine, D-alanine, D-norleucine, D-proline, D-phenylalanine, D-asparagine, D-serine, D-glutamic acid, D-lysine, or D-citrulline.

Claim 33 (new): The peptide of claim 32, wherein X<sup>10</sup> is glutamine or arginine.

Claim 34 (new): The peptide of claim 33, wherein said peptide is substituted with a radiolabel.

Claim 35 (new): The peptide of claim 33, wherein said peptide is not substituted with a detectable label.

Claim 36 (new): The peptide of claim 31, wherein X<sup>17</sup> is not present, Z<sup>1</sup> is -C(O)CH<sub>3</sub> and Z<sup>2</sup> is -NH<sub>2</sub>.

Claim 37 (new): The peptide of claim 33, wherein  $X^{17}$  is not present,  $Z^1$  is  $-C(O)CH_3$  and  $Z^2$  is  $-NH_2$ .

Claim 38 (new): The peptide of claim 29, wherein said peptide consists of a sequence selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NOs: 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34.

Claim 39 (new): The peptide of claim 29, wherein said peptide consists of SEQ ID NO: 30.

Claim 40 (new): A method of screening for a compound able to bind MCH-1R comprising the step of measuring the ability of said compound to inhibit binding of the peptide of claim 29 to MCH-1R.

Claim 41 (new): The method of claim 40, wherein said peptide is radiolabeled.